

CASCADE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
November 28, 2017
COMMISSION CHAMBERS
COURTHOUSE ANNEX, ROOM 111
9:30 A.M.

COMMISSION MINUTES JOURNAL # 57
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Notice: Pursuant to MCA 2-3-212(1), the official record of the minutes of the meeting is in audio form, located at cascadecountymt.gov and the Clerk and Records Office. This is a written record of this meeting to reflect all the proceedings of the Board. MCA 7-4-2611 (2) (b). These were officially approved on December 12, 2017.

Commission: Chairman Jim Larson, Commissioner Jane Weber, and Commissioner Joe Briggs.

Present: Mary Embleton – County Budget Officer, Casey Mohler – City-County Health Department, Scott Van Dyken – Sheriff's Office, Carey Ann Haight – County Attorney's Office, Bonnie Fogerty – Board of Commissioners, Traci Rosenbaum – Great Falls Tribune, Ben Snipes – Kovacich Snipes, P.C., Mark Kovacich – Kovacich Snipes, P.C., and Frank Warren – Clerk and Recorder's.

Report of approved Treasurers monthly report-bank balances, investments, and disbursements: Jamie Bailey read the Treasurers report, which can be found in Agenda, dated November 28, 2017.

Purchase orders and accounts payable checks: Commissioner Weber made a **MOTION** to approve invoices and accounts payable checks. *See agenda for payment information. Motion carries 3-0*

Reading of the Commissioners' calendar: Bonnie Fogerty read the calendar.

Consent agenda: Routine day-to-day items that require Commission action. Any Commissioner may pull items from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion/vote.

Approval of the Minutes and Consent Agenda Items: Commissioner Briggs made a **MOTION** to (A) Approve minute entries for November 14th, 2017, November 16th, 2017, and November 22nd, 2017. (B) Approval of Routine Contracts as Follows:

Consent Agenda

♦ **Contract 17-196:** Buy/Sell agreement between Cascade County & Macek Companies, Inc. due to additional language from the seller. Purpose: Purchase of property at Unit B3, Tribune Plaza Condominiums. Closing Date: 12/29/2017. Total Cost: \$25,200. (Ref: Contract 17-187) Chairman Larson clarified that this is pertaining to a basement unit that was being leased by the County and came up for purchase. **R0348290**

♦ **Contract 17-197:** Taser 60 Quote # Q-140252-1 & Terms and Conditions, between Cascade County Sheriff's Office & Axon Enterprise Inc. Account # 110478. Effective: October 30, 2017 Contract Term: 5 years. Contract Total: \$18,537.90 (Cost \$18,300 + \$237.90 Estimated S&H.) **Not Recorded as of Yet**

♦ **Contract 17-198:** Agreement between Cascade County (Meals on Wheels) and ECOLAB. Purpose: Pest Elimination Services Agreement. Ecolab Cockroach & Rodent programs. Effective Date: Upon Acceptance. Cost: \$70.00 per month. **R0348292**

City/County Health Department

♦ **Resolution 17-108:** Budget Appropriation for the HIV Early Intervention Program Amendment #1, Task Order 17-07-4-51-109-0 for funding increase and contract date extension. Total Amount: \$22,867. Effective: October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018. (Ref: Contract 17-02 & Contract 17-170). **R0348287**

♦ **Resolution 17-109:** Budget Appropriation for the Immunization Program, Task Order 17-07-4-31-106-0 for funding increase and contract date extension. Total Amount: \$16,920. Effective: January 1, 2018 - June 30, 2018. (Ref: Contract 16-215 & Contract 17-183) **R0348288**

♦ **Resolution 17-110:** Budget Appropriation for the Healthy Montana Families - SafeCare Program, Task Order 17-07-5-41-167-0 for coach and trainer services. Total Amount: \$4,500. Effective: June 23, 2017 - June 30, 2018. (Ref: Contract 17-04 & Contract 17-145) **R0348289**

Motion carries 3-0

AGENDA ITEM #1

Motion to Approve or Disapprove:

Contract 17-199: Retention Agreement between Cascade County and Simon, Greenstone Panatier, and Bartlett, PC. Purpose: To represent Cascade County in litigation against multiple drug manufacturers. **Not Recorded as of Yet**

Carey Ann Haight - Deputy County Attorney, read the synopsis, which can be found in the Agenda Action Report dated November 28, 2017.

Carey Ann Haight provided a synopsis of the opioid use/abuse/overuse epidemic facing both Cascade County and the Nation as a whole. Please refer to online audio clip for full details.

Ben Snipes presented, in a comprehensive manner, the intent of the retention agreement and the scope of the opioid crisis. The United States is in the midst of an opioid epidemic caused by manufacturers who've fraudulently marketed their products and primarily downplayed the addictive effects of these products, created an opioid crisis, and it's been called the AIDS epidemic of our generation. In 2016 alone healthcare providers wrote more than 289 million prescriptions for opioids, which is enough for every person in The United States to receive a bottle of pills. Overdose deaths, in Montana, are the 3rd leading cause of death. Just behind automobile accidents and suicide. The opioid manufacturers marketing scheme, to mislead physicians, was mainly comprised of downplaying the addictive qualities of these drugs. Please refer to online audio clip for full details.

Commissioner Weber reiterated that costs associated with this agreement are being handled on a contingency basis and there would be no up-front costs for Cascade County, as Simon, Greenstone, Panatier, and Bartlett, P.C. would handle those costs. If there are

recoveries, then the law firm would be paid their negotiated fee and the county would receive a portion of the recovery.

Commissioner Weber made a **MOTION** to approve Contract 17-199 pertaining to the Retention Agreement between Cascade County and Simon, Greenstone Panatier, and Bartlett, PC. Purpose: To represent Cascade County in litigation against multiple drug manufacturers. **Motion carries 3-0**

Public Participation in decisions of the Board and allowance of public comment on matters the Commission has jurisdiction, on items not covered by today's agenda. (MCA 2-3-103) NONE

Adjournment: Chairman Larson adjourned this Commission Meeting at 10:00 a.m.